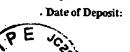
_EFW



1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS :

Zhong et al.

RIAL NUMBER:

10/659,004

EXAMINER:

Mondesi, Robert B.

Attorney Docket No.: Cura-908

FILING DATE:

September 9, 2003

ART UNIT:

1653

FOR:

Therapeutic Polypeptides, Nucleic Acids Encoding Same, and Methods of Use

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE AND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

In response to the Office Action mailed November 26, 2004, in which the Examiner imposed a restriction requirement, and in accordance with the Rules of Practice, please enter the following amendments prior to examination of the above-identified patent application and consider the following remarks. Attached hereto are Appendix A and B, which are ClustalW alignment of NOV9 variants and fragments. Applicants also submit herein a Petition of Time with required fees.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.

02/11/2005 GDUCKETT 00000004 502648 10659004

01 FC:2202 02 FC:2203 200.00 DA

180.00 DA